

MINUTES
PROTECTION & WELFARE COMMITTEE
Monday, February 10, 2014
City Hall, Room 207
5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ald. Steuer, Ald. Brunette, Ald. Boyce, and Ald. Tim De Wane
MEMBERS EXCUSED: None
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Mueller—Asst. City Attorney, Capt. Galvin, Ald. Wiezbiskie, Ald. Tom De Wane, and other interested parties.

1. Roll Call.

Ald. Steuer, Ald. Brunette, Ald. Boyce, and Ald. Tim De Wane were present.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the minutes from the January 27, 2014 meeting.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Notice of the change of agent for Walgreens Co. at 1401 E. Mason Street.

There were no objections by the City Attorney's Office or the Police Department.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to approve the notice of the change of agent for Walgreens Co. at 1401 E. Mason Street. Motion carried.

5. Notice of the change of agent for Noodles & Company at 2450 E. Mason Street.

There were no objections by the City Attorney's Office or the Police Department.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to approve the notice of the change of agent for Noodles & Company at 2450 E. Mason Street. Motion carried.

6. Application to keep three dogs at 1097 St. Paul Street.

Atty. Mueller stated the City Attorney's Office recommends denial due to the fact the Police Department has not received any response regarding medical

information on the dogs. An notice for this meeting was mailed to the requester and it was returned with a forwarding address in Florida.

A motion was made by Ald. Tim De Wane and seconded by Ald. Boyce to deny the application to keep three dogs at 1097 St. Paul Street. Motion carried.

7. Application to keep three dogs at 1861 East Shore Drive.

Atty. Mueller stated the City Attorney's Office has no objections; however a letter of dissent was received from a neighbor regarding excessive barking and animal waste at this address.

Capt. Galvin stated the Police Department doesn't have any objection; the Animal Control Officer informed him that she approves the application.

Ald. Wiezbiskie appeared and stated it's not acceptable to let your dog continuously bark and not pick up its waste.

Ald. Steuer read the letter from the neighbor who does not want three dogs living next door because the owner doesn't exude any control over their barking and the smell from the animal waste is terrible because it doesn't get picked up.

Capt. Galvin stated the Police Department has never received a complaint regarding the dogs.

Ald. Tom De Wane appeared and stated that sometimes residents will contact their alderman with a complaint instead of the Police Department and would like to hear if Ald. Moore received any complaints since this is his district. He suggested postponing this item until Ald. Moore is contacted regarding this situation.

A motion was made by Ald. Tim De Wane and seconded by Ald. Boyce to postpone until the next meeting the application to keep three dogs at 1861 East Shore Drive. Motion carried. (Ald. Brunette voting no.)

8. Application to keep four dogs at 1123 Porlier Street.

There were no objections by the City Attorney's Office or the Police Department.

Ald. Steuer opened the floor without objection.

Tammy LaTour, 1123 Porlier Street, appeared and stated she doesn't want this application approved. She has two St. Bernard's and her mother-in-law has two little dogs that bark all the time. The small dogs are always in the kennel and come out only when they need to be taken outside.

Steve LaTour, 1123 Porlier Street, appeared and stated that he and Tammy are in the middle of a divorce and currently reside in the same residence. Mr. LaTour stated that his mother moved into the home to assist with their five children and the two smaller dogs are hers. He is asking to have these dogs temporarily until the divorce has been finalized and his mother finds a new place to live.

Tammy LaTour stated the dogs don't get along. Her St. Bernard's are female and the smaller dogs are male and provoke her dogs. One of her St. Bernard's accidentally bit her because the male dog got her riled up.

Ald. Tim De Wane stated this address is in his district and he never saw a dog outside at this property. Tammy LaTour stated that's because the smaller dogs are in a kennel 20 hours a day and that she lets her St. Bernard's out in the backyard.

Capt. Galvin stated there have been no complaints received regarding dogs at this property and that the Animal Control Officer did approve the application.

Ald. Steuer closed the floor and returned to regular business.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to approve the application to keep four dogs at 1123 Porlier Street. Motion carried.

9. Request by Ald. Steuer to direct staff to recommend additions to Chapter 15 of the Zoning Code to allow for restoration of properties designated in historical districts to use building standards as set when the building was originally constructed.

Ald. Steuer stated that a citizen approached him with this request. Ald. Steuer stated the City doesn't currently have a historic preservation ordinance and he spoke with Atty. Mueller on this subject.

Atty. Mueller reported that Cheryl Renier-Wigg expressed interest in creating an ordinance such as this. Atty. Mueller suggested that this Committee refer this agenda item to staff.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Boyce to refer to staff to recommend additions to Chapter 15 of the Zoning Code to allow for restoration of properties designated in historical districts to use building standards as set when the building was originally constructed. Motion carried.

10. Discussion regarding adoption of a sex offender social media notification policy with possible action.

Atty. Mueller stated that in the handout there is a policy and procedure notification he drafted from the guidance he received from this Committee. Atty. Mueller stated he would welcome any suggestions to this policy.

Atty. Mueller explained that the policy authorizes the Police Department to notify the public, via Facebook, of the Sex Offender Residency Board (SORB) agenda. When the SORB agenda has been finalized, a link to the agenda on the City website will be posted notifying the public of the date, time and content of the meeting.

Ald. Brunette stated he has reviewed and likes the framework of the draft policy; however, he would like to make it clear that this it is for a six-month trial period for review before final implementation by full City Council.

Capt. Galvin reported the Police Department believes this is the best way for the public to get accurate information. Their number of Facebook followers grows ever day. The link has already been set up; this will save the City the cost of printing and delivery of notifications. Capt. Galvin states that the Press Gazette also publishes notification of the SORB meetings.

Ald. Brunette stated he was concerned about how the Police Department would handle calls from the public regarding sex offenders being released into the public. Capt. Galvin stated that once an offender has served their time, the Police Department has no control over where they want to live. The public would only be given information on where they are requesting to live and information on the meeting date.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Boyce to approve the draft sex offender social media policy, with the addition of language outlining the six-month trial period. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Brunette and seconded by Ald. Tim De Wane to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried.

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